

Agenda: Community Stakeholder Meeting

MEADOWDALE BEACH COUNTY PARK FEASIBILITY STUDY

Meeting Date and Time: Monday, December 15, 2014, 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm

Location: Meadowdale High School Great Hall (Entrance nearest Flagpole)
6002 168th Street SW, Lynnwood, WA 98037

Introductions and Purpose of Meeting (Logan) — 5 minutes

Overview of Meeting Process (Peter) — 15 minutes

Project Purpose (Logan) — 15 minutes

- Brief Overview of Project History
- Overview of Objectives of Project

Project Scope and Schedule (Kathy) — 10 minutes

- Opportunities for Public Involvement and Comment

Overview of Evaluation Criteria (Peter) — 15 minutes

Small-group Discussion of Evaluation Criteria (All Participants)

— 45 minutes to 1 hour

“Report Back” on Small-Group Discussions (Small-Group Discussion Leads)

— 20 minutes

Next Steps (Logan) — 5 minutes

Minutes: Community Stakeholder Meeting

MEADOWDALE BEACH COUNTY PARK FEASIBILITY STUDY

Meeting Date and Time: Monday, December 15, 2014, 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm

Attendees

Snohomish County Staff

- Logan Daniels
- Sharon Swan
- Kathleen Herrmann
- Tom Teigen
- Doug Dailer, Park Ranger
- Tom Murdoch
- Frank Leonetti

Anchor QEA, Consultants

- Kathy Ketteridge
- Peter Hummel

Community Members

Introductions, Purpose of Meeting, and Overview

Logan introduced the Snohomish County staff and consultants. She explained that the purpose of the meeting was to obtain input on the evaluation criteria. Peter provided an overview of the agenda. A PowerPoint presentation for a portion of the meeting included a presentation of the preliminary evaluation criteria. Copies of the agenda and preliminary evaluation criteria list were provided at the front table.

Project History, Objectives, Scope, and Schedule

- Logan provided a brief overview of the project history and sediment conditions at the culvert that have led to the project.
- Logan presented an overview of the objectives of the project.
- Peter provided an overview of the schedule, the main tasks in the project scope of work, and the studies that will be conducted of the conceptual alternatives.
- The next public meeting will be held in April 2015, and the proposed completion date for the feasibility project is in May 2015.

Preliminary Evaluation Criteria, Questions and Answers, and Small Group Discussion

Peter presented the preliminary evaluation criteria and described how they will be used as a “funnel” for selecting the preferred alternative. A question and answer

period followed, as briefly summarized in the following section. The meeting participants then broke up into five groups of approximately seven to ten people per group, and group leaders recorded their comments, which are provided below under “Evaluation Criteria Discussion Comments.” Group leaders were Logan, Sharon, Kathleen, Kathy, and Peter. Following this discussion period, the group leaders provided a summary of their discussions to the assembled full group.

Question and Answer Period

Questions from the community stakeholders were addressed by County staff and the consultant team prior to the small group discussion. An overview of that discussion is provided below; questions and answers have been combined and/or paraphrased from the discussion.

- *Question:* What is the role of BNSF in this project? *Answer:* The County has brought in BNSF early on in this process, and they are aware of the project. The consultant team includes engineers from Shannon and Wilson and TKDA, who work with BNSF on a regular basis and are familiar with structures and construction methods acceptable to the railroad. BNSF will have an opportunity to review the preferred alternative. Safety is a core value of BNSF, and this project has the potential to improve public safety at this location.
- *Question:* How are impacts from development in the upper Lunds Gulch Creek Watershed being handled as part of this project? *Answer:* Increase in flows from upstream development (as documented by other studies completed by the County) will be included in the hydraulic analysis for sizing the potential new opening. However, specific impacts of development on the creek and watershed as a whole are not included in the scope of this project.
- *Question:* What can be done to improve park access in the short term? *Answer:* Continue existing operation and maintenance procedures for the outlet and continue to focus on finding a long-term solution (which is the objective of this current project).

Evaluation Criteria Discussion Comments

Evaluation criteria discussion comments were summarized by discussion group and by general topic; those are attached to these meeting minutes.

Next Steps and Meeting Adjournment

- Logan described the upcoming steps in the project including development of conceptual alternatives.
- Meeting Minutes and other project information will be posted on the County’s website, and Logan provided that information.

Attachments

- Attachment 1: Preliminary Evaluation Criteria List
- Attachment 2: PowerPoint Presentation
- Attachment 3: Flip Chart Notes, organized by discussion group
- Attachment 4: Flip Chart Notes, organized by topic
- Attachment 5: Comment Card Responses

<i>Meeting summary prepared by</i>	<i>Peter Hummel and Kathy Ketteridge Anchor QEA, LLC</i>	<i>January 2015</i>
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Communicate any discrepancies in these meeting minutes, in writing, to Kathy Ketteridge (kketteridge@anchorqea.com) within 7 days.

Revised Draft Evaluation Criteria

MEADOWDALE BEACH COUNTY PARK FEASIBILITY STUDY

Public Safety

- Beach Access Across BNSF Right-of-Way

Support for Project

- Stakeholders
- Permitting Agencies

Parks and Recreation

- Pedestrian / ADA Access and Circulation
- Balance Public Access Opportunities with Habitat Protection
- Conversion of Lower Lawn Areas to Habitat
- Facility Relocation
- Operations and Maintenance
- Ability to Provide Suitable Use Areas for Current and Anticipated Programs and User Groups, including Education Uses
- Views

Sediment Transport and Coastal Processes

- Sediment Transport Capacity of Opening, for Creek Sediment Loads
- Potential for Channel Migration and Meandering
- Shoreline Wave and Erosion Affecting Park and Railroad
- Sediment Transport Distribution on Delta

Habitat Restoration

- Quantity and Diversity of Nearshore Habitat Waterward of Railroad Crossing
- Juvenile Salmon Fish Passage Conditions into Lower Creek
- Size of Transition Zone between Saline and Freshwater Habitats
- Quality of Lunds Gulch Creek Habitat
- Quantity and Quality of Riparian Vegetation along Stream and Nearshore
- Quality of Freshwater Wetland
- Habitat Connectivity for Non-fish Species

BNSF

- Consistent with Railroad Engineering Standards
- Constructible within BNSF Work Windows
- Meets BNSF O&M Standards

Funding Opportunities

- Probability to Obtain Grants
- Additional Fundraising and Partnership Opportunities

Sustainability

Cost/Benefit Considerations, Short- and Long-Term



Meadowdale Beach County Park Feasibility Study



Snohomish County
Parks & Recreation Department and
Surface Water Mgt. Div./Public Works

Community Stakeholder Meeting



December 15, 2014

Meeting Agenda

- Introductions
- Overview of Project History
- Project Objectives
- Project Scope and Schedule
- Overview and Discussion of Evaluation Criteria
- Summary and Clarification of Stakeholder Input/Comment
- Next Steps





Introductions

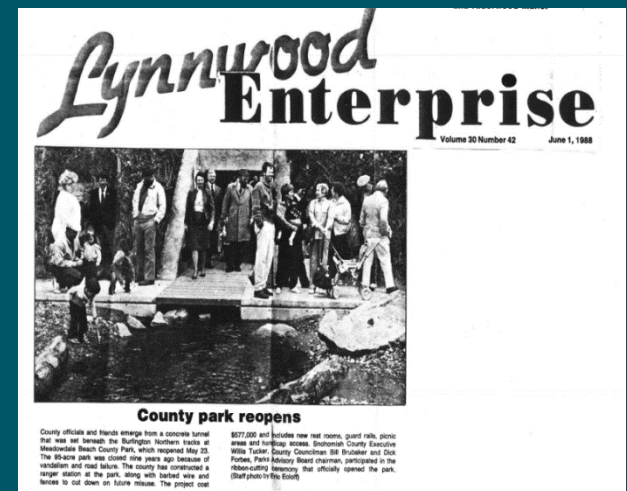


Overview of Project History

- Snohomish County purchased park in 1971

*changed post meeting

- Park closure due to slides and limited public/emergency access in 1979
- Major park development through public process 1986 to 1988



Overview of Project History

- Private Roadway and Crossing Agreement with BNSF in 1987
- Increased flooding events and deposition of sediments begin severely impacting park 1997 to present



Overview of Project History

- Interim Management
 - Operate under current permit/apply for future permits for maintenance activities
- Long-term Management
 - Meadowdale Beach County Park Feasibility Study (Why we are here!)



Project Objectives



- Pass sediment through the opening effectively and reduce maintenance

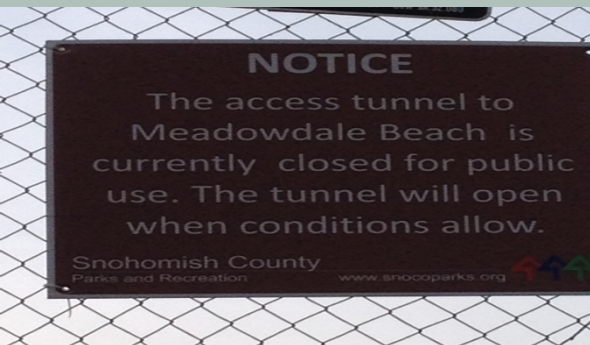


Project Objectives



- Accommodate increasing stream flows and reduce potential flooding of public use areas

Project Objectives



- Improve public access (including Americans with Disabilities Act [ADA] access) and safety to the beach

Project Objectives



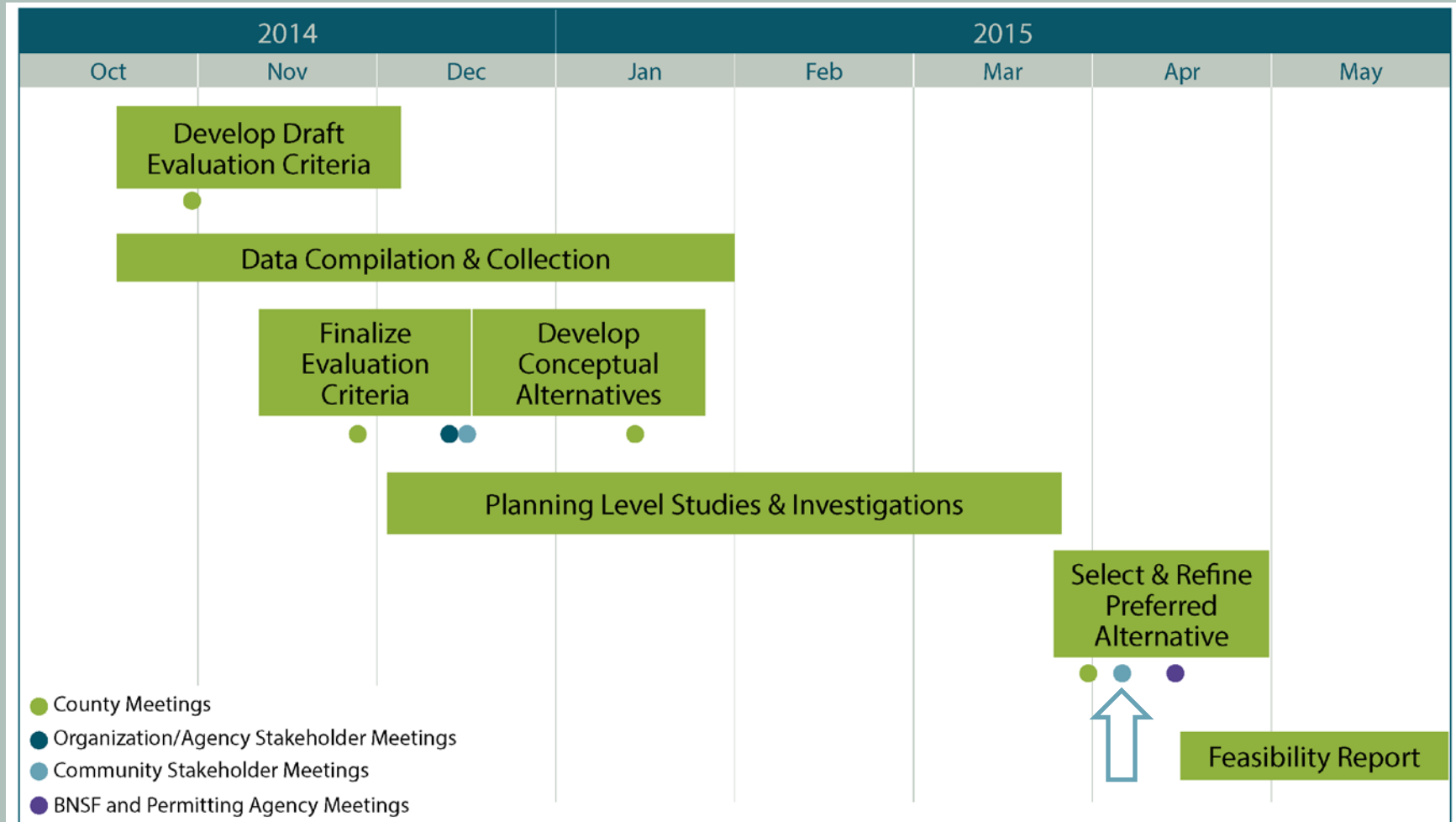
- Enhance recreational and educational use of the park

Project Objectives

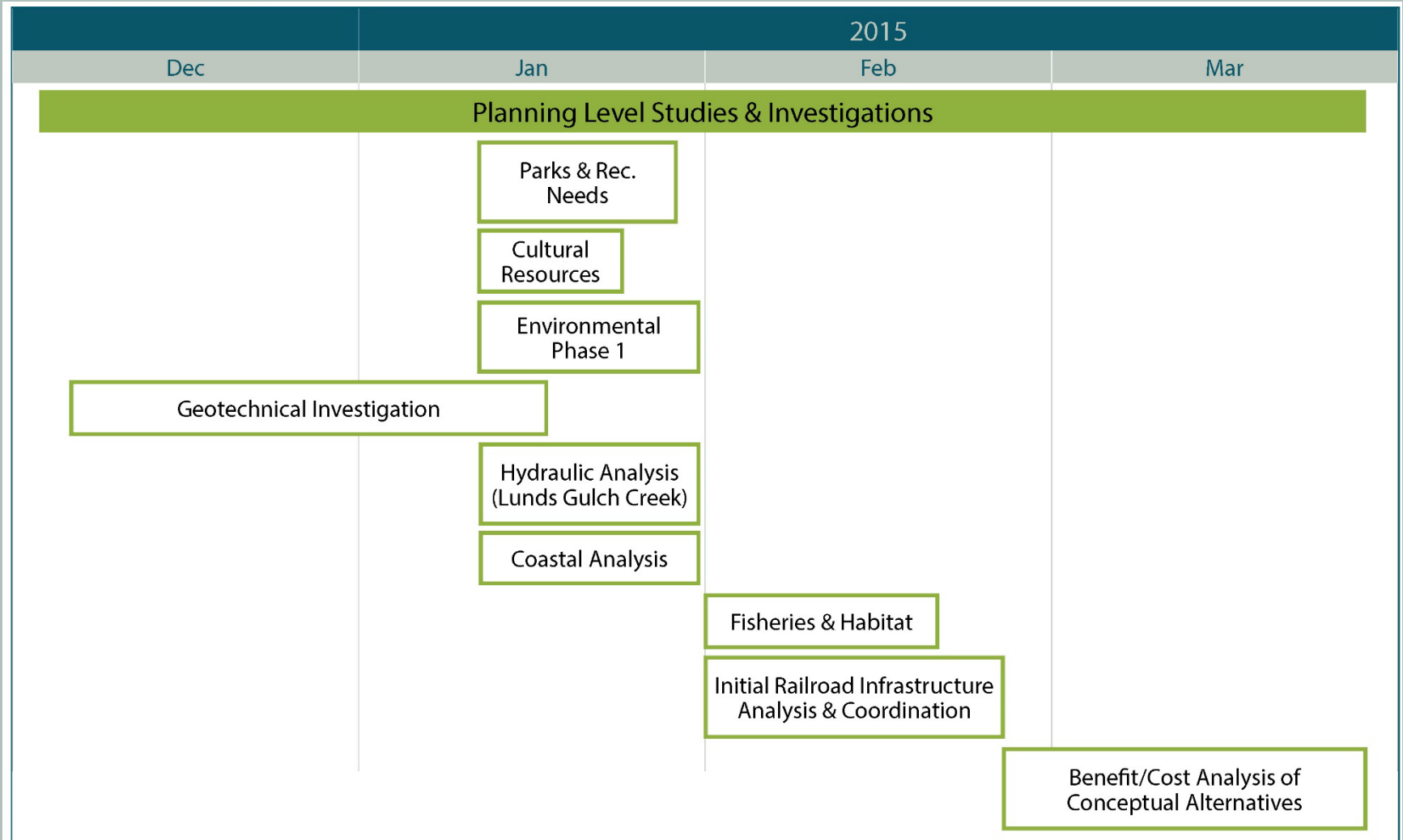


- Improve fish habitat

Project Overview and Schedule



Planning Studies



Evaluation Criteria

- Public Safety
 - Beach access across railroad right-of-way
- Support for Project
 - Community
 - Agency/Organizations
 - Permitting agencies



Evaluation Criteria

- Park and Recreation
 - Pedestrian/ADA access and circulation
 - Balancing of public access opportunities with habitat protection
 - Conversion of lower lawn areas to habitat
 - Facility relocation
 - Operations and maintenance (O&M)
 - Ability to provide suitable use areas for current and anticipated programs and user groups, including education uses
 - Views



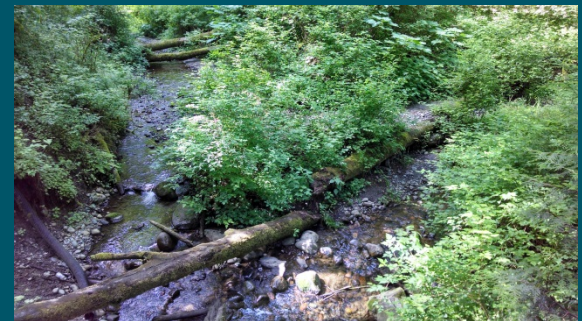
Evaluation Criteria

- Sediment Transport and Coastal Processes
 - Sediment transport capacity of opening, for creek sediment loads
 - Potential for channel migration and meandering
 - Shoreline wave and erosion affecting park and railroad
 - Sediment transport distribution on delta



Evaluation Criteria

- Habitat Restoration
 - Quantity and diversity of nearshore habitat waterward of railroad crossing
 - Juvenile salmon fish passage conditions into lower creek
 - Size of transition zone between saline and freshwater habitats
 - Quality of Lunds Gulch Creek habitat
 - Quantity and quality of riparian vegetation along stream and nearshore
 - Quality of freshwater wetland
 - Habitat connectivity for non-fish species





Evaluation Criteria

- BNSF
 - Consistent with railroad engineering standards
 - Constructible within BNSF work windows
 - Meets BNSF O&M standards
- Funding Opportunities
 - Probability to obtain grants
 - Additional fundraising and partnership opportunities
- Sustainability
- Cost/Benefit Considerations

Small Group Discussion: Evaluation Criteria



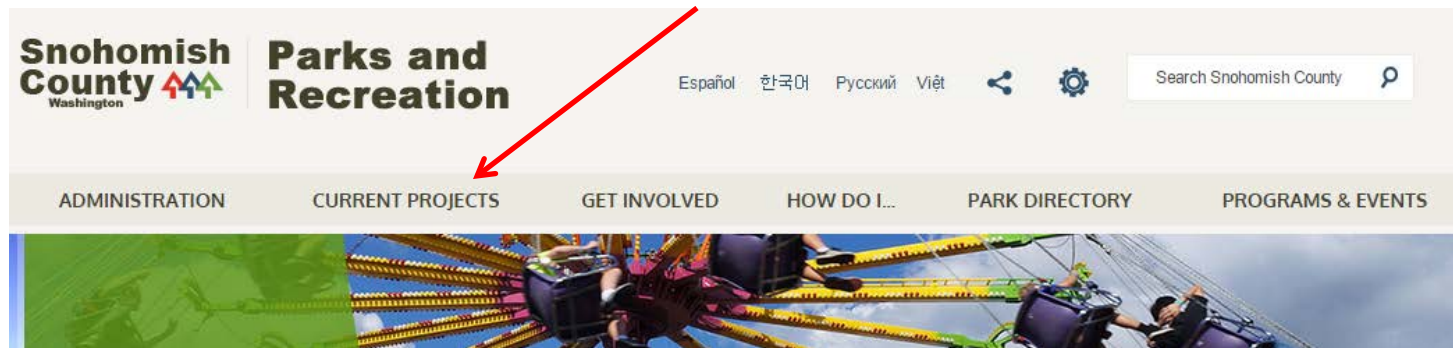
Next Steps

- Refinement of evaluation criteria based on input from organization/community and community stakeholder meetings
- Development of conceptual alternatives
- Studies to evaluate conceptual alternatives
- Second community stakeholder meeting
 - Early April time frame



Project Status and Point of Contact

For current project status, updates, and document availability go to: www.snocoparks.org



Questions or Comments:

Contact: Logan Daniels, Parks Engineer, P.M.

Phone: 425-388-6619

Email: logan.daniels@snoco.org

Thank you for your participation!



Community Stakeholder Meeting Notes by Group

MEADOWDALE BEACH COUNTY PARK FEASIBILITY STUDY

Meeting Date and Time: Monday, December 15, 2014, 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm

Group 1: Logan Daniels, facilitator

- Trestle—get rid of tunnel (dirt support) with timber supports—provides more views
- (Doesn't like overpass)
- Trestle—aesthetic concerns for view sight
- Overpass won't solve salmon sediment issues
- Can we control sediment upstream?
- Separate tunnel for public sediment for other (water)
- Existing tunnel insufficient for anything
- Trestle:
 - Would improve riparian upstream
 - Would improve estuary downstream
 - Improve visibility
 - Improve aesthetics from railroad berm
 - Would allow for stream meander
- Concern for existing Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) access
- Likes restoring marsh area
- Moving restrooms to east
- Eagle nests and all wildlife concern
- Does trestle option allow for two sets of tracks?
- Good PR for railroad cooperation
- Openness and access is important—is trestle the answer?
- Consensus is not to have overpass
- Consensus that public safety be a top priority
- Easy access will resolve public safety
- Marshland could be expanded if large opening
- Concern about marshland taking space
- Focus on habitat beach side
- Lawn area not fully utilized
- Relocate restrooms

- Site for public education environmental shortage of native habitat
- Concern over future change of ownership and who pays and maintains
- Concern about negative opposition
- Loves because hiking park is diverse
- Concern of how tidal ebb and flow will affect the park

Group 2: Sharon Swan, facilitator

Neighbor group

Wants:

- Long-term solution (but do it quick)—“done”
- Ensure public access to beach—helps protect stream
 - Separate access
- Culvert/passage-sized for water access
- Sediment problem—catch? With fish bypass?
 - But separate public access—no issue
 - If shared tunnel with public, need sediment control
- Fish enhancements/water passage improvements if high quality habitat, if brings money to project
- Not interested in park “remodel”
- 1° beach access 2° fish
- Estuary OK if part of the solution—it creates funding
- Some use of lawn—in winter wet
- Some use of picnic tables and grills
- Beach access point of park
- More trails?
- Funding possibility—Puget Sound Anglers

Group 3: Kathy Ketteridge, facilitator

- North Meadowdale Beach Road (1 block up from 76th)—groundwater inputs (notice sediment increase in last 4 years compared to previous 6 years)
- Mountain beaver (wildlife) impacted by population increase (pets)—human problem in this watershed—salmon habitat loss in Sound
- Work with natural process for runoff
- Trail redesign as switchbacks—runoff will not flow down trail during rain
- Starlight—pond filled in
- Hazard area designation makes it hard to develop
- Prone to slides from 52nd; Beverly Elementary School trees removed (erosion control?) due to development
- Encourage City to treat development in area carefully

- Drawing: An idea: Fill up elevation inside tracks



- Overpass—ADA (safety)
- Wetland inland and deepening culvert
 - Tides
 - Retaining pond
 - Inside tracks
- Pre-fabricated train bridge
- Need to fix upstream issue
- Sea level rise —real data! Can we look at it?
- Pedestrian tunnel and leave water tunnel alone
- Old marine—folks going over tracks—look at location where new little park is
- Parking (break-ins)
- Beach side emergency phone

Group 4: Peter Hummel, facilitator

- Need a sign to tell people not to block the stream
- Any endangered species in creek?
- Let BNSF help solve problem
- Concerned about beach access—few access points
 - Safe access, ensured
- Consider an over crossing and under crossing
- On water side, need to withstand waves, etc.
- How to look at developing —use what worked elsewhere
- High tides, storms, high flows impacts on both sides of railroad tracks
- Consider upstream development—impact on sediment and landslides
- ADA access – how to phase in
- Rather than over crossing—wider undercrossing for public; nice to see fish in creek
- Bridge over crossing—esthetic and cost issue
- Wider railroad bridge or multiple tunnels for fish and people—more feasible
- More flows and sediment than there used to be

- Funding—find wealthy celebrity, sponsors, Macklemore
- How about trade-offs of lawn to habitat
- Consider track elevation to increase clearance
- Consider crossing creek further upstream
- Keep loop path but could be modified
- Lawn area—very wet, especially west of picnic shelter. People also use picnic tables—including west of shelter. People like the location in sun.
- Windy on water side of railroad
- Surfrider Foundation
- Acclimation ponds

Group 5: Kathleen Herrmann, facilitator

- Access—look at similar places with trestle, wheelchair access (e.g., Carkeek Park with ramp added and Picnic Point Park [little baby killed on tracks, bigger footprint])
- Drawing:



- Question: What fish are present?
- Add criteria: flexible with regard to runoff—stormwater
- Issue: cutting trees in watershed; Beverly Elementary School
- Emphasize: BNSF responsibility—part of problem and should be involved in solution
- Developers: should be responsible for impacts
- Question: How can wheelchairs negotiate the beach? What does complete ADA access mean? All-terrain qual
- Priority: human access to beach from park
- Idea: Second tunnel for people; engineer shallower tunnel
- Priority: reliable access to the beach
- Question: Is study encompassing entire park?
 - Sea level rise, optimal conditions for beach access
- Facility: parking at the top—not enough parking at the top of trailhead

- \$5 million in conservation futures
- Criteria: emphasize ability to deal with increased runoff
- People love the park and want to get to the beach
- Stream quantity/quality
- Group ranked Evaluation Criteria as follows:
 - 1st Priority – Balance Public Access Opportunities with Habitat Protection (7 votes)
 - 2nd Priority – Public Safety re: beach access across BNSF right of way (5 votes), Quality of Lunds Gulch Habitat – (1 vote), All of the above (1 vote)
 - 3rd Priority – Ability to Provide Suitable Use Areas for Current and Anticipated Program and User Groups, including Education Uses (2 votes), Habitat Connectivity for non-fish species (1 vote), Juvenile Fish Passage Conditions Into Lower Creek – (1 vote), Quality of Creek Habitat (1 vote)

Community Stakeholder Meeting Notes by Topic

MEADOWDALE BEACH COUNTY PARK FEASIBILITY STUDY

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Parks and Recreation

1. Lawn area not fully utilized
2. Concern about marshland taking space
3. Moving restrooms to east
4. Relocate restrooms
5. Loves because hiking park is diverse
6. Concern of how tidal ebb and flow will affect the park
7. Site for public education environmental shortage of native habitat
8. Not interested in park “remodel”
9. Some use of lawn—in winter wet
10. Some use of picnic tables and grills
11. Beach access point of park
12. More trails?
13. Trail redesign as switchbacks—runoff will not flow down trail during rain
14. Beach side emergency phone
15. Need a sign to tell people not to block the stream
16. Parking (break-ins)
17. Consider crossing creek further upstream
18. Keep loop path but could be modified
19. Lawn area—very wet, especially west of picnic shelter. People also use picnic tables—including west of shelter. People like the location in sun.
20. Windy on water side of railroad
21. How about trade-offs of lawn to habitat
22. Question: How can wheelchairs negotiate the beach? What does complete ADA access mean? All-terrain qual
23. Facility: parking at the top—not enough parking at the top of trailhead
24. People love the park and want to get to the beach

Habitat

25. Overpass won’t solve salmon sediment issues
26. Likes restoring marsh area
27. Marshland could be expanded if large opening

28. Focus on habitat beach side
29. Eagle nests and all wildlife concern
30. Stream quantity/quality
31. Fish enhancements/water passage improvements if **high quality habitat**, if brings money to project
32. Estuary OK if part of the solution—it creates funding
33. Wetland inland and deepening culvert
 - Tides
 - Retaining pond
 - Inside tracks
34. Mountain beaver (wildlife) impacted by population increase (pets)—human problem in this watershed—salmon habitat loss in Sound
35. Any endangered species in creek?
36. Question: What fish are present?

Railroad/Public Access

37. Concern for existing Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) access
38. Trestle:
 - Would improve riparian upstream
 - Would improve estuary downstream
 - Improve visibility
 - Improve aesthetics from railroad berm
 - Would allow for stream meander
39. Does trestle option allow for two sets of tracks?
40. Trestle—get rid of tunnel (dirt support) with timber supports—provides more views
41. (Doesn't like overpass)
42. Trestle—aesthetic concerns for view sight
43. Separate tunnel for public, sediment for other (water)
44. Good PR for railroad cooperation
45. Openness and access is important—is trestle the answer?
46. Consensus is not to have overpass
47. Ensure separate public access to beach—helps protect stream
48. Culvert/passage-sized for water access
49. 1° beach access 2° fish
50. Overpass—ADA (safety)
51. Consensus that public safety be a top priority
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- 54. Pedestrian tunnel and leave water tunnel alone
- 55. Old marine—folks going over tracks—look at location where new little park is
- 56. Let BNSF help solve problem
- 57. Concerned about beach access—few access points
 - Safe access, ensured
- 58. Consider an over crossing and under crossing
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- 60. How to look at developing—use what worked elsewhere
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- 62. ADA access – how to phase in
- 63. Rather than over crossing—wider undercrossing for public; nice to see fish in creek
- 64. Bridge over crossing—aesthetic and cost issue
- 65. Wider railroad bridge or multiple tunnels for fish and people—more feasible
- 66. Consider track elevation to increase clearance
- 67. Access—look at similar places with trestle, wheelchair access (e.g., Carkeek Park with ramp added and Picnic Point Park [little baby killed on tracks, bigger footprint])



- 68. Priority: human access to beach from park
- 69. Idea: Second tunnel for people; engineer shallower tunnel
- 70. Priority: reliable access to the beach
- 71. Drawing: An idea: Fill up elevation inside tracks



Sediment/Stormwater

- 72. Sediment problem—catch? With fish bypass?
 - But separate public access—no issue
 - If shared tunnel with public, need sediment control
- 73. Can we control sediment upstream?
- 74. North Meadowdale Beach Road (1 block up from 76th)—groundwater inputs (notice sediment increase in last 4 years compared to previous 6 years)
- 75. Work with natural process for runoff
- 76. Starlight—pond filled in
- 77. Need to fix upstream issue
- 78. Funding possibility—Puget Sound Anglers
- 79. More flows and sediment than there used to be
- 80. Consider upstream development—impact on sediment and landslides
- 81. Acclimation ponds
- 82. Add criteria: flexible with regard to runoff—stormwater
- 83. Criteria: emphasize ability to deal with increased runoff

Other Considerations

- 84. Concern over future change of ownership and who pays and maintains
- 85. Concern about negative opposition
- 86. Long-term solution (but do it quick)—“done”
- 87. Hazard area designation makes it hard to develop
- 88. Prone to slides from 52nd; Beverly Elementary School trees removed (erosion control?) due to development
- 89. Encourage City to treat development in area carefully
- 90. Developers: should be responsible for impacts
- 91. Funding—find wealthy celebrity, sponsors, Macklemore
- 92. Issue: cutting trees in watershed; Beverly Elementary School
- 93. Emphasize: BNSF responsibility—part of problem and should be involved in solution
- 94. Surfrider Foundation
- 95. Question: Is study encompassing entire park?
 - Sea level rise, optimal conditions for beach access
- 96. \$5 million in conservation futures
- 97. Sea level rise—real data! Can we look at it?

Meadowdale Beach County Park Feasibility Study

Comment card:

The whole issue is that we have little or no beach access in a beach park. You have proven that signs and fences will not keep people from crossing the tracks, so it all boils down to safety. How can community members develop the criteria—we don't have all the facts. Seems to me the only logical solution is one tunnel for people and leave the existing tunnel to the fish.